INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

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HISTORIC			
Lowe House			
AND/OR COMMON	and the second second	8	
2 LOCATION		·	
STREET & NUMBER			
105 Kidwell Avenue			
Centreville		CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	RICT
STATE	. VICINITY OF	COUNTY	
Maryland		Queen Anne	e's
3 CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICTPUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S) XPRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUREBOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	
OBJECTIN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
	NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
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QA237

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

__UNALTERED

__ORIGINAL SITE
X_MOVED DATE CENTURY
CENTURY

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lowe House is located on the north side of Kidwell Avenue in Centreville, one-half block east of South Commerce Street. The house was originally located on the northeast corner of South Commerce and Kidwell, but in the early 20th century the large lot was subdivided along Kidwell Avenue and the house was moved to the present site.

The Lowe House is of frame construction,

2 1/2 stories high, three bays wide and two rooms
deep with an interior chimney to left of center
on the ridge of the gambrel roof. This chimney
replaces original paired chimneys on the west
gable wall which were demolished when the house
was moved.

The front facade faces south to Kidwell Avenue. The door with four-light transom is located in the east bay with two large 6/6 windows to the left and three 6/6 windows ranged across the second story. There are two 6/6 pitched roof dormer windows on the third story. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation and is covered with wood shingle siding. The

7.1 DESCRIPTION

eave is boxed in and trimmed with small, scrolled Victorian brackets below the soffit and a crown mold against the fascia. The roof is covered with asphault shingles. The window and door frames are beaded but lack backband trim.

Early openings in the east gable wall include one 6/6 in the south bay on the first floor, three 6/6 windows on the second floor and two 6/6 windows in the upper gable. Other windows have been added on the first floor and a door has been added in the center of the upper gable with an exterior stair to allow separate access to a third story apartment. The foundation and siding match the front facade; there are no rakeboards. Some of the windows are trimmed with beaded frames and ovolo backband molding.

A small one-story lean-to addition covers the east bay on the first story of the rear facade. The original rear door opening survives, now opening into the lean-to. There are 9/6 windows in the center and west bays of the rear facade. Three 6/6 windows are ranged across the second story and one 6/6 pitched roof dormer is located to west of center on the third floor. The window frames are beaded and trimmed with ovolo backband molding. The foundation and siding match the front facade.

On the west gable wall, there are two large 8/8

7.2 DESCRIPTION

windows on the first and second floor and two 6/6 windows in the upper gable. The first and second story windows were added when the original chimneys were demolished.

The interior originally consisted of a side passage double pile plan, with a stair passage extending the depth of the house along the east gable wall, and a front and rear parlor to the west. The house has been divided into three apartments, one on each floor, however, and some changes have been made.

On the first floor, the stair passage has been partitioned to form a front stair hall and a smaller hall and kitchen to the rear. The stair hall provides access to the second story apartment and the door from the stair hall to the front parlor is the main entrance to the first floor apartment.

The stair rises against the east gable wall of the passage. It is an open-string stair with a turned newel, plain rail, and square balusters. The stair treads and risers are outlined with a band of plain trim; the area below the carriage is plastered. The front door at the south end of the passage has four raised panels with Greek ogee panel molds. Other trim includes the rabbeted baseboard and beaded architrave trim on the window and all doors.

7.3 DESCRIPTION

In the front and rear parlors, the chimneys were originally centered on the west gable walls. When the house was moved, these chimneys were demolished and replaced with a single chimney centered on the interior partition between the two rooms. Large 8/8 windows were then installed in the center of the west wall in each room, but patches in the floors indicate the original chimney positions. The mantel in the front parlor (to the southwest) is typical of the Greek Revival period and was presumably reused from the demolished chimney. Pilasters with Greek ogee moldings flank the opening below a band of plain rabbeted trim, plain sideblocks and a complex shelf. The four-panel door to the stair passage has Greek ogee panel molds; the door to the northwest parlor is a later four-panel door with beaded architrave trim. Other early details include the rabbeted baseboard and beaded architrave trim.

In the northwest or rear parlor the original gable chimney has been replaced with a false fireplace with no firebox or hearth on the interior portion. The mantel in this room consists of a board surround with an ogee/astragal backband framing the opening below plain sideblocks and a complex shelf. The door from

7.4 DESCRIPTION

the parlor to the rear hall and both north windows are trimmed with beaded surrounds and ogee/astragal backband molding.

The north end of the stair passage, as noted, has been adapted as a kitchen and hall. The original rear door opens into the north lean-to, which contains a modern bathroom. The original six-panel rear door with ogee/astragal panel mold survives in place, as well as the four-light transom and ogee/astragal architrave trim.

The side passage plan is repeated on the second floor with the addition of an original small unheated chamber at the north end of the passage. More recently, the south end of the passage has been partitioned to form a modern bath. An enclosed stair to the third story is no longer used. Early trim on the second floor includes beaded architrave trim with an ovolo backband on the doors to the northeast and northwest chambers, beaded window trim in the northwest room and one sixpanel door. An Eastlake mantel shelf was installed in the northwest room when the house was moved. Seams in the flooring in both west chambers correspond to the seams noted on the first floor.

The third story has been completely renovated and

7.5 DESCRIPTION

. now serves as a separate apartment.

A hatch in the ceiling of the southwest chamber on the third floor allows access to the attic crawl space. The roof has been completely rebuilt using wire nails. Some reused material with machine nails is evident.

A low crawl space under the first floor allows limited examination of framing evidence. It is clear that the house originally had a full cellar (before it was moved) and that at one time the cellar ceiling was plastered using machine lathing.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-237

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X.1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		,

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Probably constructed circa 1830-50, the Lowe House was originally located on the northeast corner of South Commerce Street and Kidwell Avenue. In the early 20th century (but before 1913) the large lot was subdivided, the Lowe House moved to the present location on Kidwell, and a new house was built in its place. The house originally had a side passage, double pile plan with paired chimneys on what is now the west gable wall. When the house was moved, these chimneys were demolished and replaced with a single interior chimney centered between the two first floor parlors. The present gambrel roof also dates to the move and renovation and probably replaces an original pitched gable roof. Significant interior detail includes a pair of handsome Greek Revival mantels and a variety of period trim.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY	
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
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Field Notebook QA-26; Recorded July 8, 1981.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

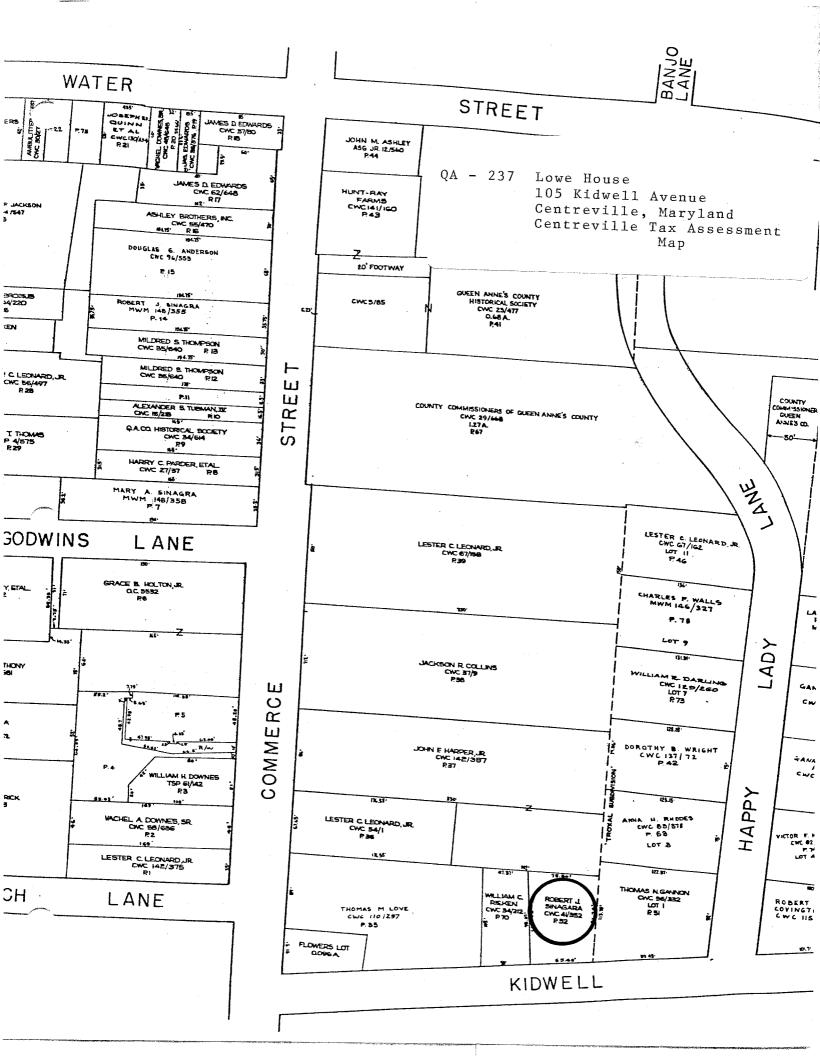
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438





GA 237 105 Kidwell Ave.

E30g.



PA # 237 105 Kidwell Ave.

april 1974



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237 105 Kidwell Ave.

April 1974